

THE CHART

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Friday, May 7, 1999



The Missouri Southern softball team prepares for the conference tournament in Shawnee, Kan., this weekend...Sports Scene, Page 10

ENGLISH DEPARTMENT

Committees fill four vacancies

By MELODY LANING
STAFF WRITER

The search to fill five vacancies in the English department is over, with four of the positions filled.

Dr. Dale Simpson, head of the English and philosophy department, was looking for two defined positions in the Renaissance area and professional and technical writing.

One committee was used to evaluate applicants for these positions. Another committee was used to select three open positions that matched up with the department's needs. The first committee was unable to fill the professional and technical writing position because of the lack of qualified applicants. Simpson hopes to fill this position within the next school year.

"We had a total of around 450 applicants, 300 for the field open positions and 150 for the other two positions," Simpson said. "All four have already signed their

contracts, with the last one being two to three weeks ago."

Simpson and the committees selected most of the upcoming English faculty by attending the Modern Language Association convention in San Francisco. At this convention, colleges and universities interview interested applicants.

"We also advertised in two publications," Simpson said.

After interviewing in San Francisco, Simpson and committee members had 15 candidates come to the College for an intensive interview process. Upon arriving at Missouri Southern, the applicants stayed at the Drury Inn in Joplin and then attended dinner with Simpson and faculty.

"Each applicant was also responsible for a 45- to 50-minute teaching presentation to faculty to show their skills," he said. "They also visited with the committees."

The committees made recommendations that Simpson

TURN TO ENGLISH, PAGE 2

THEY CALL HIM FLIPPER



NOPPADOL PAOTHONG/The Chart

Jackson Matthews, freshman elementary education major, and Kaleb Smith, freshman undecided major, enjoy Tuesday's torrential rains in a flooded drainage ditch outside Webster Hall. Campus security has dealt with several similar incidents in the past two weeks.

HONORS PROGRAM

Thirty-eight sign during ceremony

By ELIZABETH SCHURMAN
ASSISTANT EDITOR

Thirty-eight students from surrounding schools and states became new members of the honors program Tuesday during a signing ceremony in the Billingsly Student Center.

"I think we have never had so many applicants," said Dr. Lanny

Ackiss, director of the honors program. "It was extremely competitive this year, and the big feeder schools didn't loom as large as usual."

Students varied in reason as to why they wanted to be in the honors program.

"I wanted to be in the honors program because I would have different classes and more difficult ones," said Jonathan Blesi, an undecided

major from Reeds Spring.

Others may have had some persuasion from current honors students.

"I came to MSSC and heard a lot about it from Erin Sellers (freshman English major) and decided that I wanted to come here," said Jonathan Pierce, from Owasso, Okla.

Entrance into the program is by invitation and requires a composite

score of 28 or above on the ACT or a grade-point average of 3.5 or above. Almost 180 students applied this year.

"It was extremely difficult to make choices because there were so many good students and lots we wish we could have chosen," Ackiss said. "We are confident the people we chose are strong college prospects." □

ACADEMIC AFFAIRS

Reception honoring retirees to be held Tuesday

By VINCE SWEENEY
STAFF WRITER

Fourteen retiring faculty and administrative staff members will be recognized one last time for their excellence in education and service to Missouri Southern.

The Board of Regents and the College will honor the group Tuesday with a reception at 2

p.m. in the second-floor lounge of the Billingsly Student Center and a ceremony at 3 p.m.

The retirees are Sue Billingsly, director of the Missouri Southern Foundation; Dr. Elliott Denniston, professor of English; Dr. Duane Eberhardt, professor of business; Gwen Hunt, director of public information; Marilyn Jacobs, associate professor of nursing; Nancy Karst, assistant professor of dental hygiene; Dr.

Joseph Lambert, professor of English; Richard Massa, head of the department of communications and director of the Institute of International Studies; Robert Meeks, assistant professor of music; Dr. Cameron Pulliam, director of student teaching; Evalina Shippee, associate professor of nursing; Wayne Stebbins, asso-

TURN TO RETIREES, PAGE 2

CRIMINAL JUSTICE DEPARTMENT

Students to explore other systems of law

By MARLA HINKLE
CITY NEWS EDITOR

A chance to see three different systems of law is being offered to students in the criminal justice department.

A group of 45 students and three faculty members — Robert Terry, criminal justice department head; Dr. Jack Spurlin, dean of the school of technology; and Richard Spencer, instructor of criminal justice — will be departing for their journey to Morocco, Spain, and England on May 23.

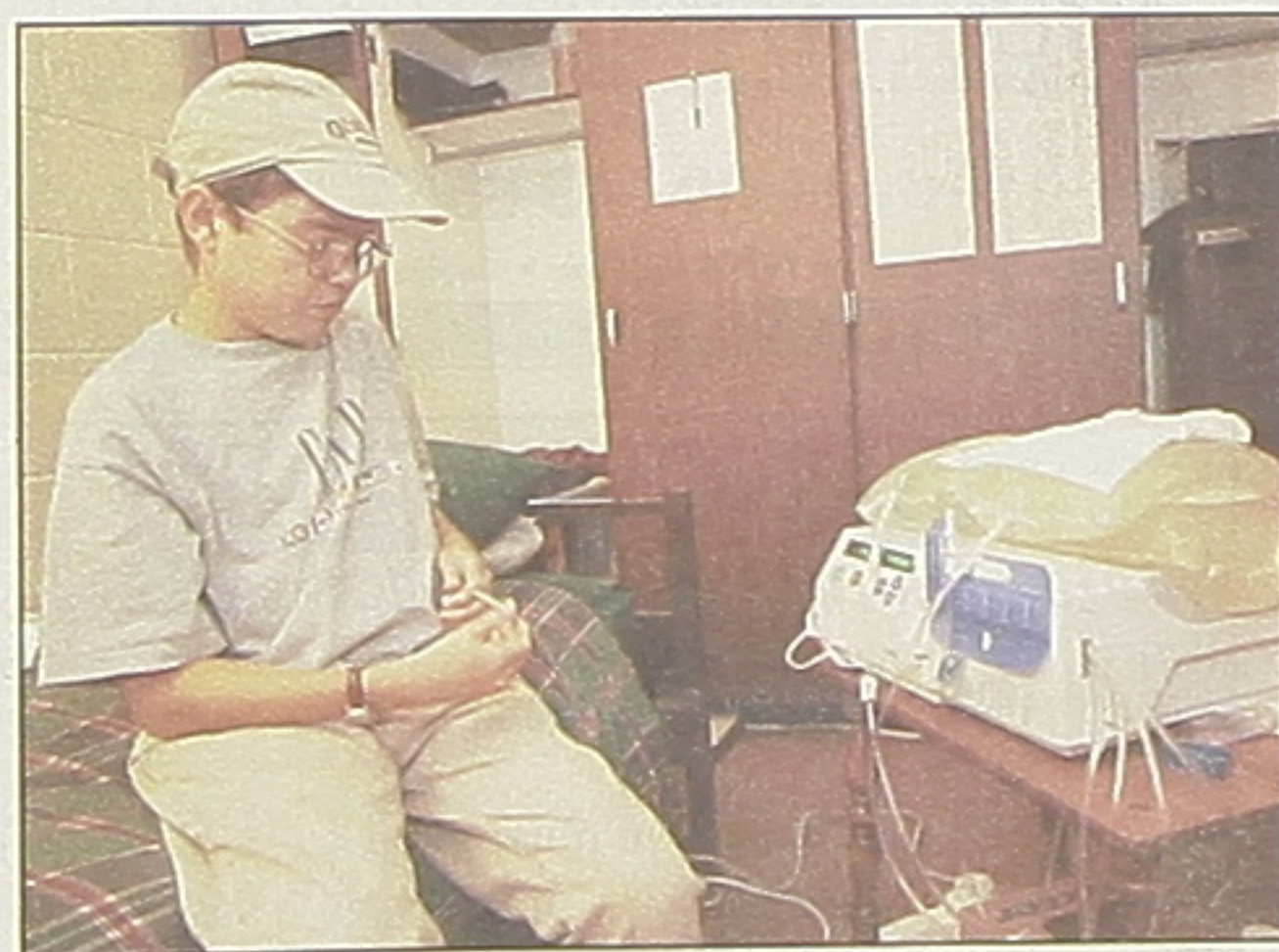
"This trip will allow students to see a different system of law and government," Terry said. "They

will get to see first-hand a different culture and how the people of these different cultures deal with the judicial system."

An interpreter will be provided on all tours in Spain and Morocco. Another part of the trip beneficial to students is the different aspects of the law.

"Students will have the opportunity to talk with practitioners in all three countries and will see a trial and different jails," Spencer said. "They will be observing Islamic law in Morocco, common law in England, and civil law in Spain. This will give them a different perspective on law when they return."

TURN TO CRIMINAL JUSTICE, PAGE 2



FILE PHOTO

Sophomore mathematics major Doug Pitts received a kidney transplant on April 6. The kidney was a near-perfect match.

Pitts acquires near-perfect kidney match

By ERIN SELLERS
CAMPUS EDITOR

Imagine having to hook up to a machine that filters blood every night. Until a couple of weeks ago, that's what Doug Pitts, sophomore mathematics major, had to do.

Pitts received a kidney transplant on April 6.

"I got a call on Monday evening and had to leave for Kansas City to have all the preliminary tests run," he said. "I was excited, nervous, scared, anxious — not really any specific emotion."

Pitts has the kidney disease called focal scleros, which caused his kidneys to fail.

"It's a mysterious disease," he said. "Even the doctors say that."

The kidney Pitts received was a near perfect

match, a four-antigen match. A perfect match is a six-antigen.

"That never happens," Pitts said.

The transplanted organ seems to be taking to his body fairly well.

"So far, so good," Pitts said. "I've had a few problems, but we're taking them as they come. I had a real big spike in my blood pressure, but that's under control."

Doctors treated the sudden rise in blood pressure by removing all of his plas-

ma. This process has to be done three times a

week. While Pitts was in Kansas City, he underwent the plasma removal seven times.

He returned home from the hospital Monday night, May 3.

"It's hard being in that stupid hospital for three weeks," Pitts said. "You can't get any rest. It was nice to come home and see some people."

Although he's home, he won't be back at school this semester. Because of immunosuppression drugs, Pitts' body is extremely susceptible to infection.

"I can't be around many people at once," he said. "In a very large group, I have to wear a mask."

His susceptibility to infection will decrease

TURN TO PITTS, PAGE 2

Arts Showcase:

Chris Roberts reviews the recent motion picture *Entrapment*.

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CRIMINAL JUSTICE: Students to visit Spanish police station, jail

From Page 1

The students are excited about seeing certain landmarks as well as the judicial aspects.

Ben Michel, senior criminal justice major, went on the criminal justice trip to Australia last summer and is eager to travel again.

"I want to see everything in general," he said. "I'm really looking forward to seeing *The Phantom of the Opera* in London."

Alisha Michel, freshman criminal justice major, is anticipating her first trip abroad.

"I want to see Africa because it is a once-in-a-lifetime opportunity," she said.

Will Barnett, sophomore criminal justice major, has traveled many times before, but is looking forward to seeing the different parts of the world.

"I have been to Russia, Germany, and many other places in Europe, but I think this trip will hopefully give me a greater understanding of different systems of law," Barnett said.

The group has a full itinerary for its excursion.

Upon arrival Monday, May 24 in London, students will do some sightseeing and later meet for dinner at a typical English pub. The next day, they will tour a London police station, view a criminal trial in progress at Old Bailey, and visit Scotland Yard.

May 26 includes a tour of the Tower of London and shopping at Harrods.

The group flies to Malaga on Spain's Costa del Sol on May 27.

The next three days will be spent at the beach and optional guided tours to the Rock of Gibraltar and Granada.

On May 31 and June 1, students will visit a Spanish police station, jail, and courthouse.

66

I think this trip will hopefully give me a greater understanding of different systems of law.

Will Barnett
Sophomore
criminal justice major

99

On June 2, an optional cruise across the Strait of Gibraltar to the African country of Morocco occupies the day.

The group returns to London on June 3 and arrives in Joplin the following day. □

RETIREES: President to give annual reception

From Page 1

ciate professor of biology; David Tillman, associate professor of biology; and Dr. Jimmie Williams, professor of criminal justice.

Dr. Erik Bitterbaum, vice president for academic affairs, said College President Julio Leon hosts the reception every year for retirees.

"It's his party, so to speak," Bitterbaum said. "We recognize their contribution to the institution and usually send them some gifts," Leon said.

"This is a way for the College to recognize many years of dedication and hard work from the faculty.

"We invite the faculty and also relatives of the individuals retiring," Leon said.

"So we usually have a good crowd there." □

ENGLISH: Instructors announced

From Page 1

reviewed. He offered these recommendations to the administration, who made the final decisions.

All of the instructors have significant teaching experience.

"One teacher has had three years of teaching since graduating from graduate school, and three of them experienced intense teaching while in graduate school," Simpson said.

The four new instructors are Dr. Holly McSpadden,

Dr. Jeff Martinek, Dr. Patricia Murphy, and Dr. Bryan Vescio.

Dr. Erik Bitterbaum, vice president for academic affairs, is pleased with the filled positions.

"They are high-quality people, teachers, and scholars that we have hired, and we're really excited to have them in our community," he said. □



Dr. Erik Bitterbaum
Vice president
for academic affairs

PITTS: Student steadily recovering after kidney transplant, hoping to make up missed classes

From Page 1

over time, but Pitts will always remain on immunosuppression drugs.

"Generally kidney transplants take more immunosuppressants," he said. "They should reduce my dose if things go well."

Pitts' main concentration is rest.

"I'm pretty tired," he said. "The whole time I was at the hospital, I never received a blood transfusion and I lost a lot of blood. My hemoglobin is really low, so I don't have much energy."

Laura Wilhelm, senior nursing major, received a kidney transplant in high school and is giving Pitts support during his recuperation.

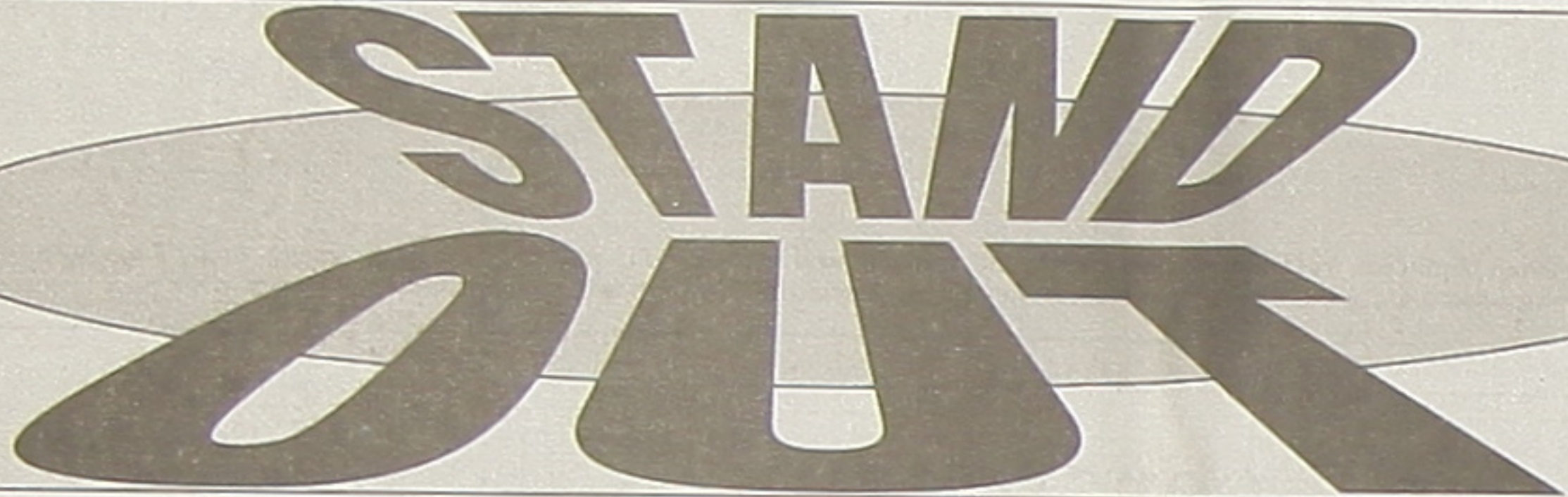
"They said that I'd get sick a lot, but I haven't really noticed that," Wilhelm said. "It just takes me longer to get over things like colds."

But Wilhelm believes the transplant is worth the occasional lingering illness.

"It's a lot better because you don't have to do dialysis, you just have to take your drugs," she said.

Pitts plans to talk to his instructors so he doesn't lose all the credit he's attempted this semester.

"I think with at least some I'll be able to work it out," he said. "Several of them have sent me cards. I'll probably have to do some sort of independent study. I'd planned on taking a math class this summer, but I'll just cross that bridge when I come to it." □



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Students trekking to Europe will earn six credits

By ELIZABETH SCHURMAN
ASSISTANT EDITOR

Europe and six college credits is a pretty good deal for some Missouri Southern business majors.

Fifteen students are going to Europe for a month this summer. They will be earning six credit hours in the business field, and will have opportunities to travel to Belgium, Paris, Sweden, Denmark, and Norway.

"The time spent in Europe is spent

between visiting businesses, touring cities, and taking classes," said Dr. Brad Kleindl, associate professor of business.

Students will be leaving May 31 and returning July 6. The two classes they will receive credit for will be International Business and International Marketing. If a student has already taken International Business, he or she will be able to do an independent study.

The cost of the trip is around \$4,000 including tuition and spending money. Many students have

been raising funds, and many have also received grants from the College.

"I think it is very rare that students would be able to do this type of trip at this level," Kleindl said. "Lots of schools offer this, but don't have the rigor and schedule that we have."

Students have to take quizzes over every chapter in the books they are studying before they can go. They also take orientation seminars.

"We are trying to prepare the students to be young professionals so

they will be cultural ambassadors for Missouri Southern and the school of business," Kleindl said. "My wife will be giving tours of cultural areas in the country."

The group will also be meeting Bo Strombom, a former Southern instructor.

If a trip were to occur next year, Kleindl would like to see more people interested.

"I would certainly encourage students to go on a tour like this," he said. "Most students don't realize how big of an opportunity this is

and that there is so much more in the world."

Kade Scrivner, a freshman accounting major, believes offering a trip such as this is a once-in-a-lifetime opportunity.

"It is a great opportunity for me to go overseas and study in a new culture and new atmosphere," Scrivner said.

"For the experiences that I would get, it is a good deal. To spend a month in Europe and get college credit is a once-in-a-lifetime opportunity." □

2001 students long for semester's end

Group readies for finals week, summer

By GINNY DUMOND
EDITOR-IN-CHIEF

Two of The Chart's Class of 2001 students are looking forward to the summer while one is just trying to make it through finals.

Sophomore political science major Wade Early is looking forward to traveling with several other Southern students to Mexico for a month beginning May 28.

"I'm excited about getting to speak Spanish all the time and I'm excited to see how much I'm going to learn," he said.

While Early says he hopes to gain valuable experience on his trip, there are some drawbacks to leaving. The first is his relationship with junior sociology major Gabrielle Lett, whom he's been dating since the end of February.

"It's going really well," he said. "A month in Mexico away from her is going to be bad."

Early will also be returning to the states one week into his trip to be a groomsman in a friend's wedding.

"That'll be a test, just being on my own in an airport in Mexico," he said.

Early says he is ready to be on his way and finished with these last weeks of classes.

"I wish stupid school would get over," he said. "All the teachers have all the assignments due in the last few weeks."

"Just because I knew about them all semester doesn't change

their due dates," he said with a laugh. "It's really my fault."

Amanda Pulce, sophomore biology major, has experienced a change in her personal life after a break-up with long-time boyfriend Rodney McClure.

The breakup came shortly after an ill-fated trip to Florida during spring break.

"I'm talking to someone else right now," she said. "I mean talking, I'm not dating anyone for a long time."

Though Pulce will be taking summer school, she is still excited about ending the semester because of a difficult chemistry class.

"That is the only class that makes me feel like I'm so stupid," she said. "It's the only time in my life I've ever been to a tutor."

Time away from school and with her family is what sophomore education major Nann Robertson is looking forward to.

"The boys are like 'We just want to spend time with you, mom,'" she said.

Working at the Learning Center is fun, Robertson said, but it is difficult for her to juggle all of her school and family responsibilities.

"It's (the job) going fantastically wonderful, but I wish I could do everything well at the same time," she said. "I wish there were 48 hours in each day."

Because of a week-long trip to Orlando, Fla., with her family, Robertson says she is a little behind in classes.

"It was a wonderful week and what you would call a whirlwind vacation," she said. "The kids had a ball."

Now, she says, she has only one more resource to give up until the semester ends.

"It just seems like the only thing that I can give is sleep." □

TOPPING IT OFF



Travis McClintock(left) and Dale Walling work on the roof of the Leggett and Platt Athletic Center.

COMMUNICATIONS DEPARTMENT

Students await Mexico journey

By JANA BLANKENSHIP
ASSISTANT DESIGN EDITOR

Several Missouri Southern students are combining fun in the sun with education this summer.

On May 28, Pedro Talavera, assistant professor of Russian and Spanish, will accompany 26 students to Puebla, Mexico, for a month-long stay. This is the third year in a row students have traveled to Mexico via Southern and the Experiment in International Living.

"The purpose is to study Spanish," Talavera said. "The students will take classes over a period of three weeks. They will meet 17 times with Mexican teachers."

Students will be attending classes Monday through Friday from 9 a.m. to 1:30 p.m. for the first three weeks of their trip. During this time, stu-

dents will be staying with a Mexican host family.

"There will be one student per family," Talavera said. "The families are housing a foreigner out of their own good will. Since they will be staying with Spanish-speaking families, they will have to use the language."

After the three weeks of classes, the students will be taking tours. They will spend two days in Cuetzalan, five days in Guanajuato, and also five days in Mexico City, the largest city in the world.

Chris McGinn, sophomore computer information science major, has been to Mexico once with his family on vacation.

"I was only there for a couple days," he said. "It wasn't long enough for me to say I've experienced it. I hope to learn to speak better Spanish and learn something

new about a country I didn't know before."

McGinn is minoring in Spanish, so when Talavera came into his Spanish class last semester, he decided he wanted to go and signed up.

"A lot of the people I've talked to say that the trip will go well with traveling and will help take me places other than Joplin," McGinn said. "I have a friend who does computer work in Mexico, and he gets to travel to different places."

Although McGinn took Spanish classes throughout his high school career and has taken five or six semesters at Southern, he says he is nervous about his Spanish skills.

"I just hope my Spanish kicks in when I get down there," he said. "I feel like I know a lot, but when I get there and have to actually speak it, that's when I'll really learn a lot." □

RETIRING FACULTY

Nursing professor retires, shipping to Montana home

By BRET ANDERSON
CHART REPORTER

Montana will be Evalina Shippee's new home after her retirement from Missouri Southern on May 31. Shippee, an associate professor of nursing, is known to most as Willie, which is a shortened form of her maiden name, Williams. This nickname originated in high school and has stuck with her ever since.

"It's been Willie a lot longer than it's been Shippee," she said.

Shippee has been in nursing for 41 years. She has spent the last 21 years teaching. She came to Southern in 1987 from the University of Nebraska, where she was the director of the nursing program.

Shippee encourages students to be active in professional organizations and to keep learning.

"If they can make it through the sciences, they're usually pretty good students," she said.

Shippee came to Southern's nursing department during a period of change. At the time of her arrival, the nursing program had proposed changing from an associate to a baccalaureate program.

"I am really pleased that the nursing department went from associate degree to baccalaureate," Shippee said. "Because I think the baccalaureate degree is what we need for the future of nursing."

Shippee became an active part in bringing about this change. Her colleagues thought she brought many new and valuable ideas to the program.

"Mrs. Shippee is a wonderful change agent and assisted the faculty in changing to the new program," said Marilyn Jacobs, associate professor of nursing.

Shippee has held other important roles at Southern. She was on the academic policies committee, the honors convocation committee, the teaching and learning committee, and the Faculty Senate. Shippee considers her committee work to be a good experience with the College.

"Those (committees) have really helped me to know other faculty," she said. "I've really enjoyed knowing other faculty on campus."

Shippee has had some memorable moments during her time at Southern. She remembers being stuck in Eldon, Mo., with four students. Their car broke down on the way to a Student Nurses' Association convention in Columbia, and they spent seven hours in a restaurant waiting for someone to pick them up.

She also remembers an April Fool's joke her students played when they put a practice mannequin at the computer in her office.

"It's always a shocker to come in and find somebody sitting at your desk with your door locked," Shippee said.

Upon retirement, Shippee and her husband plan to move to Sheridan, Mont., population 700. They are building a house there and enjoy watching it being built on the Internet.

"The picture changes every week now," she said.

Shippee is moving to Montana to be closer to her family. She calls the new house "homebase." Shippee has a daughter, a son-in-law, and four grandchildren in the state. She also has a son and two grandchildren in Austin, Texas.

"We told them one had to go north and one had to go south to take care of us," she said.

During retirement, Shippee plans to spend her time sewing, reading, and spoiling her grandchildren.

"But, I did get my nursing license in Montana," she said. "Just in case." □



Evalina Shippee sits in her office, and is retiring from Southern after 12 years as associate nursing professor.

SOUTHERN NEWS BRIEFS

Theatre major presents fashion show in Taylor

Jan Maldonado, a senior theatre major, will present a live fashion show at 7 p.m. Tuesday in Taylor Auditorium.

The fashion show, "Five Decades of Female Fashion: 1900-1949," will feature five sets plus a multi-media presentation. Admission is free.

Maldonado has poured through magazines, catalogs, and other research material from the first five decades of the 20th century to replicate fashions. Her narrative for the fashion show will include graphic descriptions of the styles and culture of the periods. The program also will feature period music and local trivia.

"I even found some music from old 78 records that I will use in the show," Maldonado said. □

State Treasurer Holden to speak at ceremonies

State Treasurer Bob Holden will be the featured speaker at the 32nd commencement ceremonies at Missouri Southern on Saturday, May 22.

Ceremonies will be held at 9:30 a.m. and noon in Taylor Auditorium.

Holden, a Democrat, is serving his second four-year term as state treasurer. He has announced his candidacy for governor in 2000. □

Schmidt elected to office of Faculty Senate leader

Dr. Karl Schmidt was elected 1999-2000 president of the Faculty Senate at Monday's meeting. Schmidt, an associate professor of history, served as vice president of the Senate this year.

Dr. Scott Wells, associate professor of biology, will serve as Senate vice president next year. Dr. Casey Cole, assistant professor of psychology, was elected Senate secretary. Jean Hobbs, instructor of kinesiology, will be the new member-at-large to the executive committee.

Dr. Dennis Harmon, assistant professor of mathematics, was reelected Senate parliamentarian. He also serves as the Senate's webmaster.

The Senate's 1998-99 minutes are available online at www.mssc.edu/senate. □

Board of Regents approve several faculty promotions

At its April meeting, the Board of Regents approved several faculty promotions.

Promoted to full professor were Dr. Wayne Adams, biology; Dr. William Stevens, business; Dr. Maryann Weber, communications; and Dr. Michael Yates, social science.

Promoted to associate professor were Dr. Ann Allman, student support center; Dr. Deborah Pulliam, teacher education; Dr. Karl Schmidt, social science; and Dr. Scott Wells, biology. □

Banquet celebrates 27 years of Massa's service

A banquet to celebrate Richard Massa's 27 years of service to Missouri Southern will be held at 6 p.m. Saturday in the Connor Ballroom. Massa is retiring as head of the communications department and director of the Institute of International Studies.

Seventeen speakers, including many of Massa's former students and College President Julio Leon, are scheduled to make remarks. Musical entertainment is also planned.

The evening will conclude with an informal gathering at Crabby's Seafood Bar & Grill. □

94 students are inducted into Chapter of Alpha Chi

Ninety-four students were initiated into the Missouri Iota Chapter of Alpha Chi, a national scholastic honor society, at Missouri Southern during recent ceremonies.

The new members will be honored at commencement ceremonies May 22. □

OUR EDITORIAL

Unsigned editorials on this page express the opinions of a majority of The Chart editors. Observations elsewhere on the page represent independent viewpoints of columnists, cartoonists, and readers.

College suffers growing pains

As time clicks by, this year will be remembered as a time when Missouri Southern suffered growing pains.

The College's efforts to identify itself as a university were foiled by the state's supposedly mature institutions. However, the battle is definitely not over. For every loss Southern suffered in Jefferson City, there was at least one victory at the Capitol or here in Joplin.

Southern secured funding to renovate, expand, and modernize Spiva Library. Technology, the fastest-growing school, also received a boost to help modernize Ummel Technology Building.

Construction is continuing on the Student Life Center, Leggett & Platt Athletic Center, and the black box auditorium. Slowly, one of the most beautiful campuses in the state is being endowed with some of the finest facilities in Missouri higher education.

Prospects are good Southern will soon build a new health sciences building. The first legislation leading to construction was passed this year. The new building would move psychology, kinesiology, and nursing programs, freeing space for teacher education, the Institute of International Studies, and other programs.

These projects affirm Southern's desire to be a university in fact if not in name.

A low spot of the year was the Student Senate presidential term of Jesse DeGonia. The Senate could not find the time or energy for Casino Night, but had no problem allocating money to itself for Homecoming.

As Southern's growth continues, it will be without the aid of many leading faculty members. For the English department, next year will be a rebuilding year. The Missouri Southern Foundation, Institute of International Studies, and the public information office are also losing directors who were in the first generation of Southern faculty and administrative staff.

Despite the losses, Southern still has a winning record and will forge ahead into the next century. □

ANDREA'S ANGLE

The Solo Adventures of Idgie
by Andrea Wilkinson
"Idgie graduates from College"



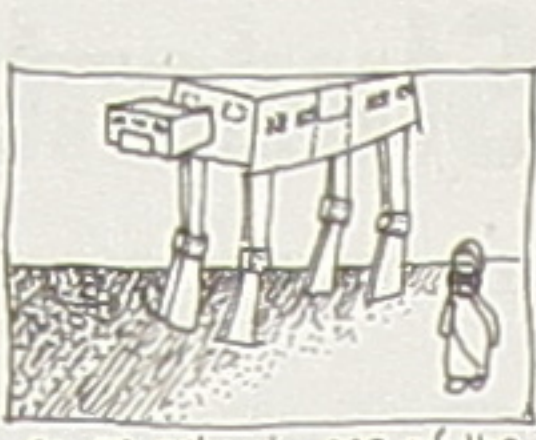
Now that Idgie is graduating where will she be found?



On the cover of TIME...



living somewhere around the world...



as an extra in one of the Star Wars prequels...



on MTV with an international hit folk-rock-pop #1 song...



starring in her own infomercial for "Dumbbells for Dummies..."



living in the basement of her parent's house...



or successfully using the degree she earned at MSSC.



Wherever she ends up, she'll be happy. Thanks, Southern, for making college great!

EDITOR'S COLUMN

Listen to Idgie's advice: road tripping is better than drugs

Taking the liberty of writing instead of drawing for *The Chart*, I bid farewell to the pages that have housed my almost weekly cartoon character — the wide-eyed, multifaceted, stick-figure I lovingly call Idgie. As my graduation date draws ever the more closer, perhaps I, for those underclassmen, should share some insight into being a college student — though I have not mastered the art myself.

If I were able, I too would write a very applicable life-lesson poem, put some drum beats in the background, and broadcast it across the nation for the masses to take to heart and apply to their own lives.

Although the song would get so much overlap that many would liken it to the song "Rockabye" by Shawn Mullins, or something by N-Sync, it would still inspire the multitudes. I would, of course, get one of my favorite bands to read for me (the Indigo Girls) or even our very own faculty member Dr. Joy Dworkin (who, if you haven't had her yet, could even make the ingredients of a bag of beans sound poetic). I suppose it would go something like this:



Andrea Wilkinson
Cartoonist

"Be NICE."

[drum beat begins]
Road-tripping is better than drugs. As long as there are roads in front of you, take advantage of them.

[music again]
Go to class, because in the end, you will realize that class attendance has something to do with all of those bad grades you've been getting.

[mamba beat]
Don't be disappointed that the friends you make in college aren't like the college pals we see in the movies. In most cases they are just as great, and probably better.

[perhaps a tambourine rattle]
Plasma donating does, in fact, save lives. Even if your parents don't approve of it, it really can be considered a well-paying, \$20-an-hour, part-time job.

[bongo drums]
Drugs are bad. Caffeine, in mass quantities, is bad as well. Exercising is good, though you may never have time to attend those Tae-Bo classes.

[Plastic egg-shaker sound]

A foreign language cannot be mastered by studying only one hour before the test. In fact, a foreign language is never mastered.

[triangle "ting..."]
International students are not as weird as they look. (Lotta Rahmn is our example.) We need to show them a good American time, even though we are stuck in Joplin and a good time seems hard to find.

[Cymbals crashing]
Los Angeles is only a day away. New York is only a day away. The McDonald's over the interstate is only 30 minutes away. The "spook light" is merely 20 minutes away. Get off your butt and go somewhere.

The world is a very cool place.

[tympani]
College is a good time to experience life. Do things worthwhile. Prove to those around you (elders included) that you are more than just another college punk.

[snare drum roll]
Smile, and in case you have forgotten, be nice. Live a life worth repeating.

Thanks for making my college career a good one.

Forgive me if I have ever frowned upon or at you; after all, I'm still learning. □

EDITOR'S COLUMN

Errors, late nights, editors, recognition irreplaceable

It's another late Wednesday night at *The Chart* office and I hear some editors saying, "This is the last one! I can't wait!"

Me too, I say, but the echo of "last one" remains in my ears even as I am writing this.

There are (as with most things worthwhile) some negatives to being on *The Chart*, such as having to miss class to get an interview, the computer crashing for the fifth time in a row, and the ever-annoying Postscript error. The positives far outweigh the negatives.

Aside from the prestige of being on the staff of the best non-daily college newspaper in the country, the role of writer in itself gives one an honor that is irreplaceable. Despite the fact I

have spent my entire college career at Missouri Southern in the hallowed halls of Webster and Hearnes, I know just about every faculty member on campus. I don't even live in Joplin, but I know most every place and news event going on because of my role as city news editor. *The Chart* has given me a link to the College and Joplin that I would not otherwise have, and for that I am extremely grateful.

I will miss these connections to the community and faculty, but not more than the staff. From the time I began as a staff writer, there have been many unique personalities I have come in contact with. Some of my fondest memories are those that were intimidating in the beginning. I was under the tutelage of the ever-feared (among new staff writers) Tammy Spicer. With her constant attention and coaching, I learned how to write a good lead and the basic framework of a story.

I have had the privilege of working under three very different editors. Jake Griffin, with

his fiery temperament, was a great introduction into the real world of newspapers. Nick Parker was an editor who related well to the staff, albeit the sarcastic comments, and last, Ginny Dumond, who remains calm in the face of disaster. This semester, I have, along with Eric Gruber and Erin Sellers, learned layout from Jeff Billington and Jeff Wells. Without their help, we would be lost. We would also be lost without Noppadol Paothong and his fantastic pictures. Also, thank you Rhonda Clark for keeping our stories clean. Thanks to Andre Smith for his warm personality and laughter. Thanks to Richard Massa for helping me become more professional in interviewing and lose my addiction to the tape recorder. Most of all, I would like to thank Chad Stebbins for his unfailing attention to detail, high standards, and dedication to his students.

It's been a wonderful experience for me, and I know it will continue to be for future staff writers. □



Marla Hinkle
City News Editor

Students stop flood damage

On Monday, April 26, certain damage to the building and property of the theatre department at Missouri Southern was avoided thanks to the quick response of its students.

Due to the combination of heavy rainfall and on-going construction, the Green Room and women's dressing rooms were flooded with muddy water.

Students present at the scene immediately began removing the contents of the room to the outside hall. They then barricaded doorways with whatever they could find to channel the water to the inside drains and to the doorways exiting the building. Using

brooms and shovels, they further expedited the removal of the water. They even went outside in the pouring rain and stopped the source of the flooding waters coming from a trench.

I think these students should be applauded for their effort and spirit. I am proud to work for them.

The students are as follows: Josh Jeffries, Bethia Scott, David Hale, Rebecca Braden, Teri Thomas, Lily Valencia, Donald Leffert, Ruth Wood, Matt Britt, Monica Hilderbrand, Corey Gasparich, and Kris Stoker.

Mike MacDonald
Custodian, Taylor Auditorium

IN PERSPECTIVE

Dworkin invites fellow faculty members to contribute to campus dialogue on Latin America

As we approach the end of this semester and begin to anticipate the Latin America Semester, I invite members of the Missouri Southern community (in particular, my colleagues in communications and social science) to consider contributing columns to *The Chart* in the fall. In particular, I think it's important that we inform ourselves, one another, and our students about the history of relations between the U.S. and Latin America. In doing so, it is imperative that we not "sugarcoat" the bitter truth.

I am aware that the response to this year's Gockel Symposium was mixed. Many in the audience were apparently disturbed at the directness of President Arias' criticism of U.S. influence around the world. I don't want to be insensitive to the reasons for this troubled response. It is not

easy to hear this kind of criticism.

I remember when it first dawned on me that the United States was hated — deeply and justifiably — by millions of people beyond its borders. When I was 14, my mother (following some wild, wise impulse) whisked her three children off to live in Spain for a year. We spent that summer on a Greek island, and at one point we witnessed some aggressive and hostile behavior toward U.S. tourists. In the course of our discussions with tourists from Greece and elsewhere across Europe, I learned the reason for this hostility: my own government had provided support to the much-hated military dictatorship in Greece.

This was mind-boggling to me at the time. My country was supposed to be the defender of "freedom and democracy."

How could we be aiding a military dictatorship? After all, we had been living under Franco's regime in Spain, so I had at least a vague sense that such a system — with its armed and unsmiling military officers at every corner — felt quite "unAmerican." Later, I learned that it was a common feature of U.S. "influence" around the world to support, even to put into place, such governments. I am of course referring to Latin America.

Now I grew up during the Vietnam War,



Dr. Joy Dworkin
Associate Professor

and so I had been aware that many U.S. citizens were deeply critical of their own government. Perhaps this awareness allowed me to hear criticism of my country more easily, although criticism from "outsiders" certainly feels different, because of the stronger element of shame. In any case, given my fairly early experience, and given other experiences I have had living and traveling in other places, it is no shock to me to hear hostility expressed toward the U.S. government and its policies. And it is no shock to learn of other instances of injustice and arrogant domination perpetuated by the U.S. Well, let me correct that. It is always a shock, initially. Then come the familiar "oh, yeah," that sad "of course...once again..."

I can sympathize with my patriotic students who are repelled by harsh criticism

of their country. Many have not heard it before, or at least not coming from credible sources. Unfortunately, there are credible sources. Some of those sources are Latin American.

So as we celebrate the many cultures of Latin America, as we learn more about Latin American geography, etc., I hope in the fall semester we will also learn about the things we cannot celebrate but must know.

Let's learn about the United Fruit Company, La Escuela de las Americas, the Contras, Pinochet. A bumper sticker from my youth read, "America, Love It or Leave It." The thinking person's response to that sentiment is obvious. It is the moral imperative, "America, Love It and Change It." We must become educated in order to know what needs to be changed. □



SPJ — The Nation's Best Non-Daily Collegiate Newspaper (1995, 1996)
ACP National Pacemaker (1997) ACP Best of Show (1998)
ACP Pacemaker Finalist (1982, 1986, 1988, 1989, 1990, 1991, 1992, 1994, 1997, 1998) MCMA — "Best in State" (1993-94, 1996-97, 1997-98)

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JOPLIN POLICE DEPARTMENT

Checkpoints ensnare several drunk offenders

By CALE RITTER
STAFF WRITER

Local law enforcement arrests reached high numbers at a recent sobriety checkpoint.

On April 16, the Missouri State Highway Patrol teamed up with the Jasper County Sheriff's Department and Joplin Police Department to administer a checkpoint. It was conducted at Seventh and Schifferdecker, from 10 p.m. to 3 a.m.

"We were very impressed by the high number of arrests," said Sgt. Geoff Jones of the JPD. "It was comforting that we caught

them, but on the other hand it was bad that there were so many out there."

There were 18 people arrested for driving while intoxicated, 84 arrests for misdemeanors, and one person underwent a felony arrest for escape.

License violations were the cause for 22 citations, 19 tickets were written for other traffic related offenses, 18 citations were given for seat belt violations, and one child restraint violation was written. In total, some 178 warning tickets were issued.

"The troopers and officers roamed the area for those avoiding the checkpoint," Jones said.

"Fourteen of the 18 DWI arrests were done in this manner."

"We call the roaming a DWI Wolf Pack," said Lt. Tony Coleman of the Jasper County Sheriff's Department.

"It does nothing but concentrate on certain areas and look for impaired drivers. Basically we did a combination of that and the checkpoint."

Lt. Robert Powell of the Missouri State Highway Patrol said the test is at least three of the following: horizontal gaze and nystagmus (an eye test), walk and turn, one-legged stand, finger to nose, and the alphabet.

"Each test is given to each per-

son as identical as possible," Powell said.

Conducting the checkpoint were 19 officers, composed of nine state troopers, five sheriff's deputies and five police officers.

"It usually takes a lot of manpower, so we usually try to do a cooperative effort," Jones said.

This collaborative effort to reduce alcohol-related offenses, coordinated by the Highway Patrol, was funded from a "Safe and Sober" state grant.

"We always get a positive response in that they don't mind a few seconds delay by looking at their license," Coleman said.

The Highway Patrol is required

to attend sobriety checkpoint school on the Central Missouri State University campus at Warrensburg. Officers must follow strict guidelines.

"The goal is to remove intoxicated drivers and create a mindset to others to let them know that they could be stopped in the future," Powell said.

Jones said the JPD is going to implement more ways of enforcing DWI detection.

"Usually we see a high number of DWIs and deaths in the summer," he said.

"But the numbers being so high so soon concerns us, so please drive responsibly." □

REGIONAL
NEWS BRIEFSMcKinney wins annual
Outstanding Citizen

Myron McKinney, president and chief executive officer of Empire District Electric Company, has been named the 1999 Outstanding Citizen of the Year.

The Outstanding Citizen Award is the highest honor given to a Joplin Area Chamber of Commerce member.

McKinney has taken an active role in Joplin. He has served as chairman of the board of the Chamber and the Joplin Business and Industrial Development Corporation.

McKinney was instrumental in bringing Jasper Foods and Gulf State Paper to Joplin. □

St. John's Hospice offers
golf tournament event

St. John's Hospice of Missouri, Kansas, and Oklahoma will be hosting its annual golf tournament. The event will take place June 18 at the Briarbrook Golf and Country Club.

Entry fee is \$50 per player, and includes cart, greens fees, and lunch. The proceeds will benefit hospice patients in care of St. John's.

For more information, interested persons may call Steve Powers at 627-8488. □

Housing Association
holds landlord topics

A seminar dealing with landlords and some issues they may have is scheduled from 8 a.m. to 4 p.m. Saturday, May 15 at the Banquet Center, 3316 Main.

The event is sponsored by the Southwest Missouri Rental Housing Association.

Robert Wise, executive vice president and general counsel for the Missouri Apartment Association, will be the featured speaker.

Interested persons may call Judie Kraemer at 624-7227. □

Pub acquires extra room,
new management team

Guccione's Italian Cafe and Champ's Pub and Grill are now managed by Doug and Mary Guccione.

New additions to the restaurant include a banquet room for groups of 20 to 100 people for wedding receptions, private parties, business meetings, and other functions.

New restaurant hours are from 11 a.m. to 10 p.m., Tuesdays through Saturdays. Outdoor patio dining will be offered. □

Mercantile bank merger
creates several branches

Mercantile Bancorporation, Inc. has merged with Firststar Corporation.

Firststar is a Milwaukee, Wis.-based company. Mercantile, based in St. Louis, is the largest bank headquartered in Missouri. The merger will create the 13th largest bank holding company in the United States.

The assets combined will be more the \$75 billion.

With the acquisition, Firststar will have 5 million customers and 1,180 branches in the Midwest. □

Joplin Police Department
presents safety shows

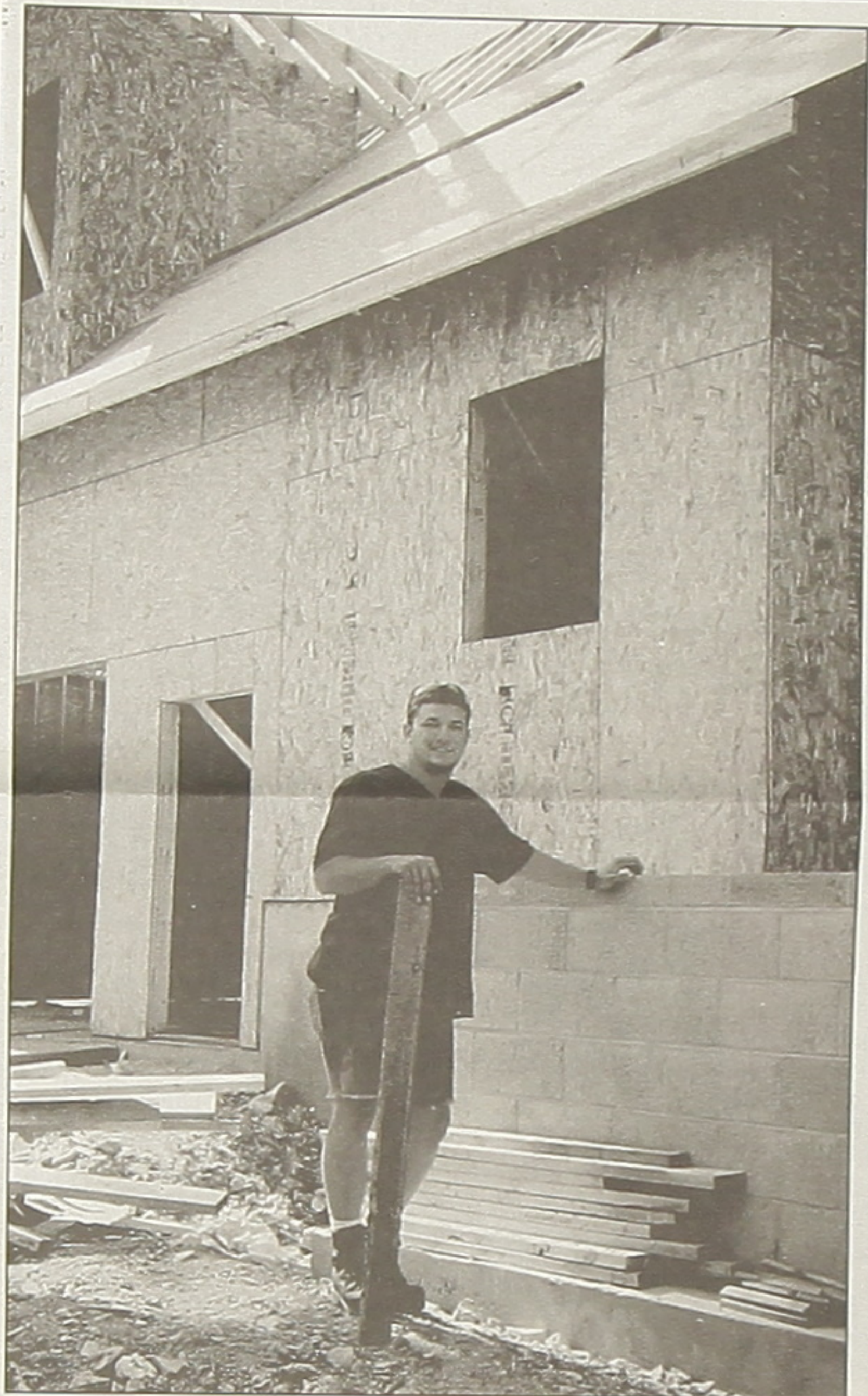
The Joplin Police Department will hold an open house from 9 a.m. to 6:30 p.m. May 14-15.

Demonstrations by the department's special response team, K-9 unit, mountain bikers, and traffic division will be featured at half-hour intervals.

There will also be safety presentations and "reverse 911" demonstrations.

Popcorn will be available throughout the day, and grilled hot dogs will be served around noon each day. Tours and fingerprinting for children will be available. □

CITY OF JOPLIN



Bryan Higdon, owner of H&R Construction, poses outside his company's latest project, a 4,500-square-foot home.

Costs slow building boom

Fewer contracts do not lead to construction decline

By MARLA HINKLE
CITY NEWS EDITOR

Building contracts are dropping in the Joplin area due to rising costs in construction. However, construction rates are soaring according to a number of independent contractors. Bryan Higdon, part owner of H&R Construction, said his three-year-old business continues to grow.

"Since I started my business, I have not had any down time," he said. "There are new projects continuously coming to town. Construction contracts are down about 8.9 percent, but that hasn't seemed to affect business."

Higdon thinks Joplin is a good area to be working in because of all the potential for growth. In comparison to the contracts awarded last year, which were \$4.6 million, the estimated reports for this year are only \$1.6 million in non-residential contracts, a drop of 64 percent. Also showing a decrease from last year are residential rates, down 38 percent from last year.

There has been an increase in commercial contracts, said Steve Smith, president of Joplin Construction & Design.

"We have been extremely busy this year," he said. "Right now, we are doing work on the black-box theatre at Missouri

Southern, a manufacturing company for Eagle Picher, a school in Mount Vernon, and a church in Buffalo just to name a few."

Rates for buildings have remained the same, according to Sharon Ferneau, code enforcer at the Joplin Construction Job Site.

"Buildings are \$45 per square foot," she said. "For residential buildings, it is \$20 per square foot for a detached frame garage, for brick it's \$25. Basements are an additional \$10 per square foot, and \$15 per square foot for carpet."

Ferneau says it is \$4 per every \$1,000 evaluation and up to and including the first \$5,000. After that figure, \$2 per every \$1,000 is added.

Ron Jones, president of JMH Construction, says there has been a 6 percent rise in construction contracts.

"This is mainly due to the rising cost of construction, the materials to build," he said. "The building types that are in demand are medical and office buildings. Building contracts may be down due to the types of building materials used in these buildings."

For the month of April, Joplin issued numerous building permits. The total construction for April came to \$18.7 million. □

MEMORIAL HALL

USA to battle Mexico
in Olympic-level fightBy CALE RITTER
STAFF WRITER

On May 8, Joplin will get reacquainted with an old favorite pastime.

Olympic-level boxing between Team USA and Mexico will be held at Memorial Hall at 7:30 p.m. Doors will open an hour earlier.

"An event of this caliber doesn't come to Joplin every month," said Sandy Bary, recreation and events manager for the city of Joplin.

Tickets are being sold at Memorial Hall, the Wal-Mart Supercenters in Joplin, Carthage, Pittsburg, Monett, and Webb City; and the Neosho Golf Course. Tickets are \$15 for ringside, \$10 for mezzanine and the first two rows of the balcony, and \$8 for all other balcony seats.

"I'm excited about amateur boxing returning to Joplin," said Wendell Redden, tournament director and former sports editor of The Joplin Globe.

"We haven't seen any type of boxing here in several years. I'm anxious to see what will happen. I know USA Boxing is excited to see it come here."

Mike Greninger, sales director of the Joplin Sports Authority, raised close to \$20,000 from sponsors for the event. A list of sponsors includes CFI; US Cellular; Crossland Construction; R&S Chevrolet; Bill Whipkey; Wal-Mart of Webb City, Joplin, and Carthage; Sultan of Smoke; Jim Bob's; Parrish, Jacobs and McPherson Law Office; Grande Tire; Ed Landreth; Coca-Cola; Holiday Inn; and Larry Hickey Distributing.

"The whole event wouldn't be possible without volunteers," Greninger said. "The Kiwanis Club is playing a big part in that."

Redden was the director of the Golden Gloves tournament in Joplin for 15 years. Golden Gloves was founded in Joplin in 1936 by Karl Applegate.

"Boxing has played a big part in Joplin's history," Redden said. "Several fighters have won major titles, and one man, Windy Morris, won the national championship."

This is the first time Joplin has hosted an international boxing competition.

Greninger picked up the event with Jim Frazier, director of men's athletics at Missouri Southern, at the US Olympic Congress in October at Phoenix.

Greninger said boxing intrigued him due to the fact Golden Gloves did so well here. Since Joplin hosted USA Baseball in the past, the U.S. Olympic Congress was familiar with the city.

"It will be a pure sport because it is the Olympic International Committee," Bary said. "The fighters here quite possibly can be seen at the Olympics in 2000."

According to Redden, the U.S. team will be sending three national champions: Clarence Vinson, bantam-weight, is a three-time national champion; Calvin Brock, super-heavyweight; and Michael Simms Jr., light heavyweight; are both national champs.

"Hopefully this will stimulate some interest and bring back boxing in Joplin," Redden said. □

MODOT

Aircraft overload poses
monetary discrepanciesState budget committee
takes note of misusesBy PHYLLIS DETAR
STAFF WRITER

Use of the state's fleet of aircraft has recently been under discussion and investigation in the Missouri state legislature.

"We realized we should be taking a look at the number we have," said Sen. Marvin Singleton (R-Seneca). "There is no coordinated effort to utilize them."

Members of the House budget committee reviewed flight records last month and determined some of the aircraft had been misused by some members of the Office of Administration, Department of Transportation (MoDOT), and Department of Conservation, as well as the attorney general's office.

The state owns 28 aircraft and helicopters, which does not include National Guard or college- and university-owned aircraft. Of the 28, the governor's office has three, including a new jet that cost some \$32,000 to operate from November 1998 to March of this year. This did not include pilot salaries.

The Department of Conservation has four and MoDOT has three.

The Highway Patrol has 18 flyable planes and helicopters and six additional non-operating aircraft, according to information received from the office of Rep. Gary Marble (R-Neosho).

The investigators determined MoDOT

spent \$206,854 in 1998 to operate its aircraft, which is down from the \$314,823 it spent in 1997, the report said.

It also stated, "From March 1998 to March 1999, MoDOT has spent over \$69,000 on 92 flights to shuttle state highway commissioners to meetings. Frequently, only one commissioner will be on the plane."

In a letter to the new director of MoDOT, Henry Hungerbeeler, Minority Whip Charles Shields (R-St. Joseph) officially requested that MoDOT either transfer its two twin-engine aircraft to the Office of Administration or sell them.

"It is my belief that aircraft operations for the state of Missouri should be consolidated into one division," the letter said.

"Such consolidation will reduce the number of aircraft required for state government use and will ensure appropriate budgetary and legislative oversight of aircraft operations."

A press release from MoDOT dated April 23 stated the department will be reviewing its flight policies to make sure all MoDOT planes are used appropriately. It will also study the consolidation proposal.

"Our agency is very concerned that our airplanes are used efficiently and that there is no money wasted," said Jeff Briggs, of the MoDOT public affairs office.

"As to the specific request to transfer or sell two airplanes, until the review is complete, it is too early to tell that is the appropriate action." □

Campus Calendar

If your organization has an event you would like publicized, call Erin Sellers at 625-9311.



■ **Star Wars movie tickets** go on sale Wednesday at area Hollywood Theatres. The movie's release date is May 19.

Friday

11

10:45 a.m.-

All campus picnic in front of Billingsly Student Center, free with ID, \$5 without.

Saturday

8

Missouri Southern competes in MIAA Track outdoor championships at Maryville, MO.

Tuesday

11

7 p.m.-

Students present "Five Decades of Fashion: 1900-1949" in Taylor Auditorium.

Thursday

13

Reading Day, no classes!!

Friday

14

Finals start

COMMUNICATIONS DEPARTMENT

German Club prepares European expedition

Students develop cultural appreciation before travel

By MELODY LANING
STAFF WRITER

Expanding German knowledge and culture is a yearly goal for the German Club at Missouri Southern. This the club accomplishes through various activities, including food sampling and an overall observation of German culture.

The club meets on a biweekly basis throughout the semester on Tuesdays from noon to 1 p.m. in the conference room on the third floor of Webster Hall.

There are some prerequisites that students

must meet to be involved in the club.

"The student has to be enrolled currently in a German class or has to have had prior exposure to a German class," said Dr. Markus Müller, assistant professor of French and German.

"Currently there are around eight to 10 members."

German Club officers are: Patrick Riley, senior biology major, president; Leigh-Ann Long, freshman psychology major, vice president; and Patricia Schmitt, freshman psychology major, treasurer.

"We were first nominated by the fellow members, then everyone voted on it," Long said.

The German Club has attended many culture-oriented exhibits.

Last fall, members traveled to Tulsa to experience the annual Oktoberfest. Once at the German festival, club members observed German craft stands and sampled authentic cuisine.

"The students over 21 also got to sample some German beer," Müller said.

Three weeks ago the German Club took a trip to Kansas City and visited the Nelson Atkins Museum.

"Afterwards we went to a German restaurant for some food sampling," Müller said.

Lately, the club has been intertwined with the summer study abroad program in Ansbach, Germany.

"The other day we had an individual bring in pictures of the city we will be visiting," Müller said.

"We also have had video screenings such as tourist highlights."

Club members who are participating in the summer study abroad program will be gone May 24 to June 20. They will receive three hours of credit.

"To prepare for the trip, we have each been giving presentations on a particular topic involving Germany," Long said. "My topic is on Mozart."

Next year, the German Club is contemplating taking a trip to St. Louis.

"We will also continue having a German cooking time in the television studio," Müller said.

Müller would also like to see more people involved next semester. Anyone interested may contact Müller at 625-3108. □

STAR WARS

Movie hype causes campus excitement

Film craze expected to break all records

By DINK SOMMER
CHART REPORTER

Star Wars: Episode I "The Phantom Menace" already has a fan following that dates back all of the 16 years since the last movie of the famous trilogy was released in 1983.

Even though the new movie is anticipated by a generation of fans, the originals continue to bring in fresh faces.

"To tell you the truth, I didn't start watching the movies until a couple years ago," said Dustin Craft.

The 21-year-old secondary education major admits the movie helps him to understand his emphasis in history.

"I can understand history better if I put it into terms of Darth, Luke, and Han," he said. "You can do that, it's cool."

The estimated 120 figures and ships, such as the Millennium Falcon, adorning Crafts' residence hall may also help him to understand why his money has become history.

"The biggest impact these movies have had on me is in my wallet," Craft said.

He plans to spend more than \$100 on Episode I merchandise and opening day in the box office line in hopes of seeing his favorite character, Yoda, make a reappearance in the new movie.

"Many wise things he has said," Craft said imitating the oddly structured sentences for which the character is known.

An employee of the Wal-Mart in Butler, he has previewed the new items.

"I've seen the boxes of toys reading not to be opened until May 3," Craft said.

"I begged to open them and

take a peak, but my boss wouldn't let me."

The new movie, scheduled for release May 19, already has fans like Craft in awe.

"The first time I saw the trailer, my jaw dropped," he said. "It was awesome, hair-tingling."

While the movie has hair-tingling effects on fans, it may make parents' hair tingle for another reason.

With merchandise for the old movies at a record level as far as price is concerned, the new toys are sure to make it easier for stores like Sam's Wholesale Club to get a piece of the pie and harder for parents to avoid the merchandising onslaught, which undoubtedly comes with a movie of these proportions.

"We really didn't have any Star Wars merchandise until the re-release of the original trilogy," said Scott Jackson, marketing representative at Sam's Wholesale Club.

The 1996 Missouri Southern graduate plans to stand in line at the box office as his contribution to the agreement he and friends have of taking shifts until tickets are sold.

For parents who may be worried about the pressures the added toys may bring to the market, James Wallace, a sales representative at the Joplin Target store, gives them a sigh of relief.

"The consumers are anywhere from 7 to 57 years old," he said. "The majority are middle-aged, though."

While some may grimace at the amount of publicity surrounding the new movie, Jackson had this to say about the trilogy, which for a while, he may have forgotten.

"All the excitement's really cool," he said. "It's been so long since the other movies came out that this rekindles the force in all of us." □

'TIS MERELY A FLESH WOUND



Zdenek Zemlicka (red) and Petr Theimer (blue) of Argo Gladatoria demonstrate their many medieval fighting skills Monday in front of the Billingsly Student Center.

NOPPADOL PAOTHONG/The Chart

ALUMNI ASSOCIATION

Seniors named 'Outstanding'

By CALE RITTER
STAFF WRITER

Southern seniors Iwona Drozdek and Amy Graves are the 1999 Outstanding Graduates.

Drozdek, an economics and finance and international business major, has a perfect 4.0 GPA.

Graves, a biology major, earned a GPA of nearly a 3.97.

"I think it's a great honor to be chosen out of the field of people graduating this semester," Graves said.

"Many of them (the graduating students) have a lot of influence on campus and participated in a number of activities."

The students chosen for this year's Outstanding Graduate award were first nominated by faculty.

After the initial nomination, the awards committee of the Alumni Association made the selection based several different factors

such as campus activities, character, leadership, and grade-point standing.

The two recipients were honored Wednesday at the 23rd annual Honors Convocation.

Drozdek grew up in Poland, which was oppressed by a Communist government and had little exposure to the western world.

She was a foreign exchange student in Stockton.

"We had few movies, and the television was brainwashing rather than educational," she said. "I was shocked when I came to the United States and studied the true history of my country."

"Our books didn't tell the truth. My father taught me our real history."

Graves' career goals include becoming a plant pathologist and college instructor.

She plans to obtain her master's degree from the University of Arizona in plant pathology.

Drozdek will pursue a graduate degree in international business at the University of Memphis.

She ultimately hopes to find a career in the international business field.

Freedom and free enterprise is important to her.

"I want to teach the Polish people what freedom really is," Drozdek said.

Both Graves and Drozdek believe credit should be given to Southern faculty for strong support during their academic pursuits at Southern.

"He (Dr. James Jackson, professor of biology) is an excellent teacher," Graves said. "He's doing with excellence what I want to do."

Drozdek credits James Gray, dean of the school of business administration, with possessing various qualities that helped her during school.

"If I ever had a problem or question, he was there to help," she said. □

CAMPUS ACTIVITIES BOARD

Hollywood appears at '99 Homecoming

Cadle receives prize for her theme idea

By BRIAN WIRTH
STAFF WRITER

Homecoming in Hollywood" will be the theme for this year's Homecoming celebration.

This idea was brought about through a contest held to decide what the Homecoming theme would be.

Thirty-four Homecoming theme ideas were turned in to the Campus Activities Board office and the best one overall was chosen.

"A committee of 12 people picked out the one that they thought would be the best," said Val Carlisle, coordinator of student activities.

Twenty of the theme ideas were eliminated right off the bat. Then

each member of the committee picked out his or her own personal top four. With these four ideas, the committee had to figure out which would work out the best visually.

"We wanted a theme that we could have good posters, displays, floats, and a parade for," Carlisle said.

"Basically we wanted the one that would look the best."

This year's Homecoming theme contest winner was Sarah Cadle, freshman psychology major.

"It was a theme that we worked on and used in our high school," she said. "I thought that 'Homecoming in Hollywood' would look really good and that it would turn out well."

Cadle received a prize of \$50 for having the winning Homecoming theme idea.

"I really didn't think that I would win at all," she said. "I was very surprised." □

Exhibits mark farewell of graduating seniors

Students artwork ranges from painting to jewelry

By CHRIS ROBERTS
STAFF WRITER

Four more seniors are bidding their fellow Missouri Southern classmates farewell with a short display of their art work this week.

Ralph McBride, Andrea Wilkinson, Heather Johnson, and Jamie McCool are four students in the graphic design department who have their senior exhibits on display in Spiva Art Gallery.

Today is the last day to view their work at the show.

Their pieces are similar to last week's exhibit with a large display of art ranging from paintings and sculptures, to silver jewelry and a metallic star fruit.

All of them have had experience using their art for various corporations.

"I use my art to vent," Wilkinson says in her statement found with her art in the gallery. "I also use it to communicate."

McCool agrees that art can be therapeutic, as she explains in her statement, "It's always been an emotional release, an escape from the impossible world."

Though all of them have been using their talents to create art for quite a while, they each find Southern a great learning experience.

"To me it has always been natural," McCool said. "Art is me."

"Graphic communication is very demanding but rewarding," Johnson said.

All of them have strong opinions about art's influence on the world.

Each, in their own way, hopes to use art to



Manndi Maphies, Ashley Wolf, and Trish Willers take a look at Ralph McBride's art exhibit in the Spiva Art Gallery. Today is the final day of the art exhibit.

make a difference through one medium or another.

"I want to use my talents for good," Wilkinson said.

For some artists, the process of creation is complex.

"Graphic design involves the transmission of information and ideas by visual means,"

McBride said. "Besides, having your work in lights and constantly surrounded by celebrities, what could be more fun?"

The gallery will be open until 5 p.m. □

AREA CLUBS

Karaoke pulls people into Kenny's

By CASSIE HOMBS
STAFF WRITER

For those Missouri Southern club hoppers who are getting sick of seeing the same old faces at the same old clubs, there is a place they may not know about.

Kenny's Dance Club/Loft in Joplin has more elegance than most head-banging, gyrating clubs in the area.

Owner Kenny DeLange said his club has been a dream for a long time.

"I've always loved music," he said. "I paid my way through college as a drummer in a band. That's mainly why I got back into this."

DeLange used to own an advertising agency. He decided he didn't have time to pursue an advertising career and the club.

"I still do some freelance advertising work," he said. "But I don't mind boating on Grand Lake, either."

DeLange is also the landlord of Rafter's Nightclub located downstairs. He thinks his club is nice break from most area clubs.

"This club is pretty upscale," he said. "It's not quite the meat market that a lot of other clubs are."

The club opens at 7 p.m. on Thursdays, Fridays, and Saturdays, and dancers must be 21 to get in.

"We usually have around 200 people in here," he said. "And, there are a lot of singles on Thursday night."

Which sounds like a good thing for singles, but what attracts these people on Thursday nights may be the fact they are karaoke nights.

"I like the people that go there," said Kelly Watson, head bartender. "I'm always meeting different types of people."

Aside from the amusement of karaoke night, DeLange has live bands Friday and Saturday.

"I try to use both local and non-local talent," he said. "We rotate blues with classic rock."

Bands come in from all over the area and as far away as Kansas City and Texas. The club has pool tables, a dance floor, and bar. Entrance through the bar is from a wooden staircase, and chandeliers hang from the ceiling. The atmosphere proves a great place for a couples.

"You don't have to look over your shoulder at this club," DeLange said. "It's more of a date place. It's just roomier and classier than any other club in Joplin." □

LOCAL BAND

Band releases farewell album

U.S.M.C. to end with CD debut, two-week tour

By ERIC GRUBER
ARTS EDITOR

If bored by the same top 40 songs being played on the radio and in desperate need of some high intensity music, there's some good news and some bad news.

The good news is that locals U.S.M.C. are releasing their "technically" second album May 22 with a release party and their standard energetic show.

The bad news is the release party is also their farewell show. With the exception of a two-week tour in the summer, this will be U.S.M.C.'s last stand.

"The CD, we're officially having it come out the last show we play," said Dan Johnston, junior sociology major and band vocalist and frontman.

Members of the band include Johnston on vocals; Rob Laptad, drums; Gene Herbert, bass; Jeff Ware, guitar; and Dr. David Locher, assistant professor of sociology, also on guitar.

The band has been together for "about three years," and Locher said he's been in the band "I think about two and a half years."

After the CD release, the tour to follow will be unique in that it will have some lineup changes within the band to complete the dates.

"Not only is it a goodbye tour, but on the actual tour it will be two guitar players that aren't even in the band," Locher said. "I'm not going on the two-week tour, because I'm writing a book and I've got a wife and cat."

Ware also has similar responsibilities that prohibit him from going on the tour.

"I think it's harder to be in a band and do this kind of music and stuff when you've got two married men," Johnston said. "Especially when you're not getting any money; we don't get any money."

Even though U.S.M.C. has been a hobby, the fans always show their support at the band's shows by being highly energetic and sometimes a little destructive. One such example was when the band played a house party in Tulsa, Okla.

"It was crazy," Locher said. "They broke everything we had. My amplifier got knocked over three times."

"It wasn't because they were mad, they were loving it. Unfortunately, law enforcement officials shut us down."

The location of the final show has not been finalized yet, but the U.S.M.C. album, *The Rise and Fall of the Middle Class*, will be available on CD.

The new album will be available at the release party and should be available in stores such as Hastings and Sam Goody in the near future. □

Film coyly 'entraps' audience attention

Not even a year after her glamorous performance as Zorro's high-class beauty, Catherine Zeta-Jones proves she's no one-hit wonder in her latest role in the new blockbuster film *Entrapment*.

Tag teaming with Sean Connery in yet another pre-millennial movie in which the turn of the century is essential to the plot, Zeta-Jones finds herself in a role perfect for her.

Unlike the last movie she starred in, *Entrapment* is set some few months in the future, the opening scene a mere 16 days before New Year's 2000. Not to worry, though, this movie has none of the end-of-the-world mumbo jumbo that is so prevalent lately. In fact, the only current issue dealt with in the movie is that of the computer bug that everyone is worried about. Zeta-Jones and Connery plan to use the computer crash in order to pull off a robbery for the records.

It starts off with an intense scene of a daring thief dropping 70 stories, using the latest technology, and cracking a high-class security system in order to steal a priceless Rembrandt.

Zeta-Jones is first introduced as an investigator for a major insurance company with an obsession for the infamous thief McDougall, played by Connery, who she assumes is the art thief. She begins to trail Connery, trying to discover if he was the one who did it, which we later come to find out he did.

No, actually he didn't. Well, he did and he didn't. Thankfully, this movie has that type of intrigue, keeping the audience guessing

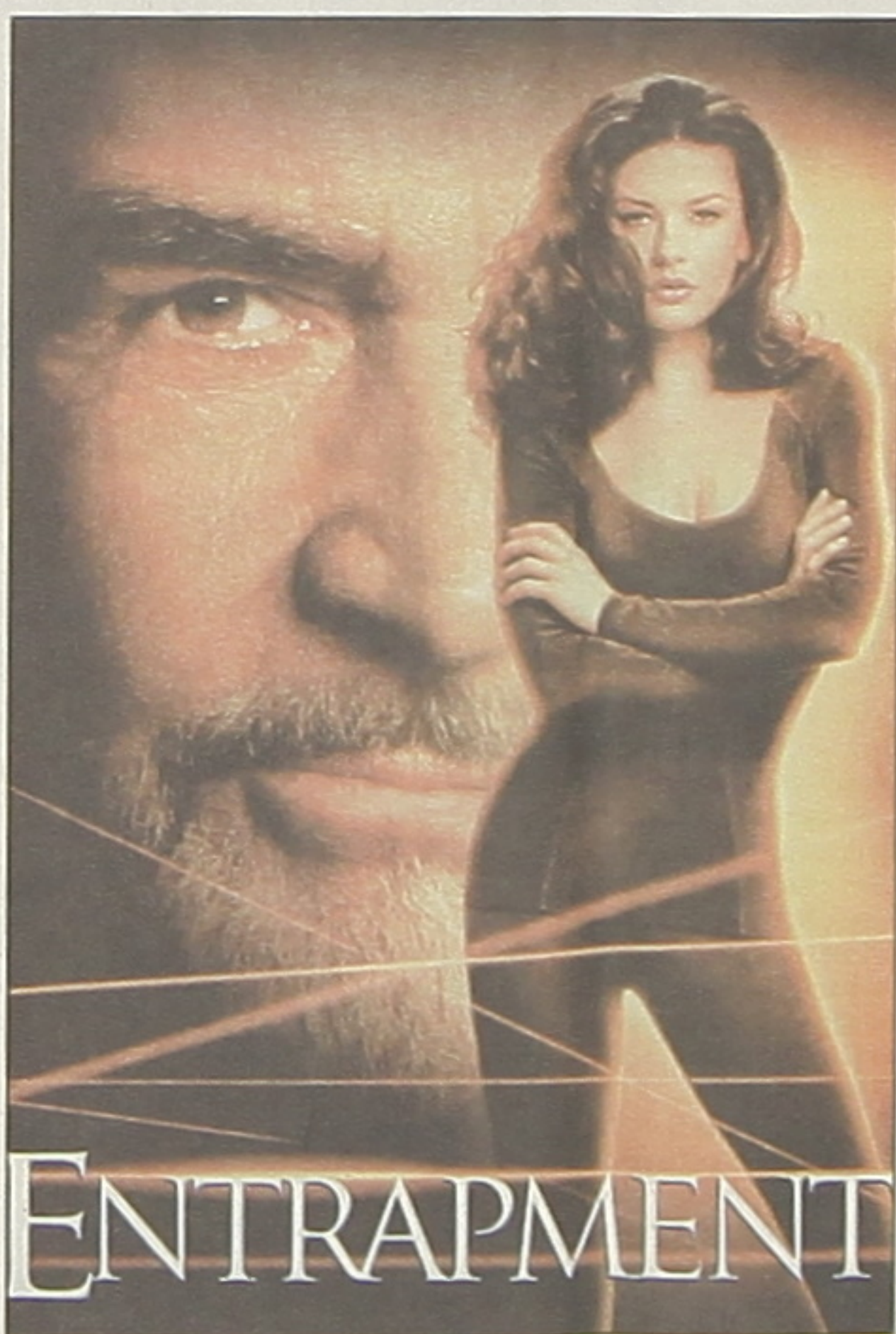
the entire time.

Inevitably, Connery discovers Zeta-Jones is following him. Instead of getting rid of her, though, they form a partnership — working together in order to steal a valuable Chinese mask, the first of many capers. Connery does it for the money and Zeta-Jones does it to bring down Connery. Is that really how it is, though?

At first I was afraid this was going to be another one of those movies where the smart agent is up against the smarter criminal, but as the story unfolded, the plot began to thicken.

A number of times I thought I had figured it out, but then a couple of minutes later a different twist showed up and I had to readjust my thinking.

Zeta-Jones and Connery demonstrate they are a wonderful team, working the



SPECIAL TO THE CHART

underlying romantic theme between them to near perfection.

Entrapment is the perfect name for this movie. Intrigue, manipulation, and a wonderful plot line make this movie a definite must see.

Though it could be possible to figure part of it out, in the end, as Connery says, "There are always surprises." □

Arts Showcase

Arts Calendar

If your organization has an event you would like publicized, call Eric Gruber at 625-9311.

Upcoming Arts ETC. PLAYS

Stone's Throw Theatre presents "Anastasia," on tonight and tomorrow evening. Anyone interested in more information can call (417) 358-9665.

Friday
7

7 p.m.—

Stone's Throw Presents Anastasia

Saturday
8

7 p.m.—

Stone's Throw Presents Anastasia

Tuesday
11

7 p.m.—

Student Fashion Show "Five Decades of Women's Fashion" Taylor Auditorium

Thursday
12

7 p.m.—

Air Force Band Taylor Auditorium For free tickets contact The Joplin Globe

HIGHER EDUCATION NEWS BRIEFS

SMSU documentary focuses on waterways

Ozarks waterways and its aquatic life received international attention this week when an on-going research project at Southwest Missouri State University became the subject of a documentary nature film.

A film crew from Bristol, England, was on campus to work with Dr. Chris Barnhart, associate professor of biology, and graduate student Michael Baird concerning their work with freshwater fish and mussels. The footage will be used in "The Triumph of Life," a series that will be aired on PBS.

"Mussels are probably the most endangered family of organisms in North America," Barnhart said.

His work has been supported by the Missouri Department of Conservation, the Kansas Department of Wildlife and Parks, the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service, and the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers.

The crew constructed an aquarium to film the biological research project in Temple Hall. □

University of North Dakota names new president

Dr. Charles Kupchella, provost of Southeast Missouri State University, has been named president of the University of North Dakota.

The University of North Dakota, located in Grand Forks, is a doctoral institution with both a medical school and a law school.

Kupchella, Southeast's provost since 1993, helped develop the university's Polytechnic Institute and River Campus. He also helped start Southeast P.M. and was a key author of the university's strategic plan. □

CMSU's Elliott gives final commencement address

Central Missouri State University President Ed Elliott will present his final commencement address in ceremonies at 10 a.m. and 2 p.m. Saturday in the Multipurpose Building.

Elliott plans to retire Aug. 1 after 14 years as Central's president. Central's Board of Governors recently renamed the University Union the Ed Elliott University Union.

Rooms 236-240, formerly known as the University Union Ballroom, also were renamed the Sandra Temple Elliott Ballroom in honor of Mrs. Elliott.

About 1,150 Central students are expected to participate Saturday. □

Missouri Western gets new athletic director

Pete Chapman has accepted the position of athletic director at Missouri Western State College.

Chapman, currently the director of athletics at Wayne (Neb.) State College, has been in his position since 1986 and is responsible for administering 15 sports. He was Wayne State's head football coach from 1983-88.

"I am pleased with the opportunity for Pete to assume the reigns of our athletic department," said Dr. James McCarthy, executive vice president at Western.

"I know his professionalism and dedication to student athletes will have a great impact on Missouri Western and in the St. Joseph community."

Chapman will begin his position around June 1. □

Truman student receives Fulbright Assistantship

Laura Klimpel, a senior English major at Truman State University, is the recipient of a 1999-2000 Fulbright Teaching Assistantship.

Klimpel will spend the year in Korea both teaching English and studying Korean educational methods.

Thirty English Teaching Assistantships for Korea were awarded by the Fulbright Scholarship Board. □

STATE INFORMATION OFFICE

Computer readiness is high priority of state

By GINNY DUMOND
EDITOR-IN-CHIEF

World-wide concern over Year 2000 computer problems is being addressed in the state of Missouri through many different measures.

One of the main concerns those affiliated with solving the computer problem have is education of both those who may be affected by the problems and those who are overly concerned about the effects to take place on Jan. 1, 2000.

"The major year 2000 problem still facing the federal government is ensuring that private businesses and corporations will be ready for the year 2000," said Rep. Gary

Burton (R-Joplin). "To enhance these efforts, the national government has been working cooperatively with the state governments and private industries to emphasize the importance of addressing these problems."

Burton has been keeping up with the state and federal progress in dealing with Y2K readiness. He says there are several misconceptions he has from Missourians regarding the effects of Y2K.

"Contrary to much public fear, the national nuclear arsenal will not simply launch itself on Jan. 1, 2000," Burton said. "According to the Department of Defense, this problem has been examined and addressed. No nuclear device will be launched by a computer problem."

Burton said the Federal Aviation Administration is also confident public safety will not be threatened through the corruption of airline computers.

Michael Benzen, chief information officer for the state of Missouri, is also president of the National Chief Information Officers. Benzen is responsible for all the computers in the state.

"For the last 18 months, we have been reporting progress," he said. "By the end of March, we were at 43 percent, and I would say April's report will put us at in the high 80s."

Benzen believes the state will be at 99 percent by June or July. He also expressed confidence in the state's banks, insurance com-

panies, and utility providers.

"We feel very comfortable with them and that they're in good shape," he said. "Our concern now is mid-sized or small businesses."

Now is the time for smaller businesses to be contacting their software providers, Benzen said, so software providers are able to correct the problems in time and are not flooded with last-minute requests.

"If you are a family doctor's office, you can call for an upgrade and have it installed in three days," he said.

Benzen said information on how to become Y2K ready is available through the state at <http://www.y2k.state.mo.us>, www.y2k.state.mo.us, or www.y2k.gov. □

STATE GOVERNMENT

Familiar names fill 2000 ballot

November election will feature several state legislators

By GINNY DUMOND
EDITOR-IN-CHIEF

Elections in November 2000 will put several state offices up for grabs, including governor, lieutenant governor, secretary of state, attorney general, and state treasurer.

As is often the case in the Missouri governor's race, two highly touted Missourians are seeking election to the office.

With Gov. Mel Carnahan's term expiring, there is no incumbent in the race.

Missouri Second District Congressman Jim Talent appears to be the leading Republican seeking the office. Before his election to Congress, Talent served in the Missouri House for two terms and was House minority floor leader his last four years.

"In Congress, I have been fighting to change Washington," Talent said in his speech announcing his candidacy.

"Now, I want to fight for a better Missouri. That's why I'm running for governor."

Talent says his agenda for the state includes tax cuts, education, and better management of money to fix Missouri roads.

"Our citizens voted to raise their gas taxes to pay for a 15-year plan to improve our highways," he said. "The state government needs to keep its promises — period."

Bob Holden, currently serving as Missouri's state treasurer, likely will be running against Talent and representing the Democrats.

Holden, a Harvard University graduate, served three terms in the Missouri House and went on to become an assistant to U.S. House Majority Floor Leader Richard Gephardt (D-Mo).

As treasurer, Holden has been instituted the "Dollars and Sense" program that teaches elementary students financial responsibility, and has made improving education a main campaign platform as well.

Elgar Macy, businessman, retired Navy aviator, and religious right activist, is also running for the position.

The race for lieutenant governor may be heating up in the primary due to the two leading Democrats who have announced candidacy: Rep. Gracia Backer (D-New Bloomfield) and Sen. Joe Maxwell (D-Mexico) will be

vying for their parties' nomination for the November ballot.

"I really want to continue working with the progressive measures we've passed," Backer said. She mentioned the areas of tourism and issues that concern the elderly as issues the office oversees.

She also said meeting the needs and questions of the public is not only a main responsibility of the lieutenant governor's office, but one she believes is also a strength of her current office.

"The one thing I have been very proud of is our ability and our response to returning citizens' calls and getting them to the right place," she said.

"Accessing government is one of the most important things people see as a problem."

"One of the things I enjoy most about my job is when somebody calls to say 'Gracia, somebody said you could help me'."

Carrie Gartner, campaign manager for Maxwell, who is term limited and cannot run for another term in the Senate, says his track record in the Senate lines up nicely with the duties of lieutenant governor.

"He wrote the Welfare Reform Act and Early Childhood Education Act," Gartner said.

"I'm sure those will be things he wants to continue with."

Gartner says Maxwell's campaign will likely be a grassroots effort across the state.

"A lot of work across the state, just basically getting to know the people is what we're hoping to do," she said.

There has also been speculation that Rep. Rita Days (D-St. Louis) and Sen. Bill Kenney (R-Lee's Summit) may be seeking the office.

Steve Gaw (D-Moberly), current speaker of the House, is the only confirmed candidate for the secretary of state position.

There is, however, a chance Rep. Matt Blunt (R-Fairgrove) and Rep. May Scheve (D-Grantwood Village) will throw their names into the ring.

Incumbent Attorney General Jay Nixon is currently unopposed for his office.

The battle for treasurer may heat up, as several individuals have announced candidacy.

They include Rep. Scott Lakin (D-Kansas City), Rep. Brian May (D-St. Louis), Carl Bearden, a St. Charles County councilman, and Todd Graves, Platte County prosecuting attorney.

Claire McCaskill's state auditor position will not be up for election again until 2002. □

JOPLIN CHAMBER OF COMMERCE

Event focuses on Joplin area, opportunities

By GINNY DUMOND
EDITOR-IN-CHIEF

Last week's Joplin Days at the Capitol offered state legislators and staff members an opportunity to get to know facts about the town and Missouri Southern.

The event, sponsored by the Joplin Area Chamber of Commerce and the City of Joplin, provided breakfast to those in the Capitol where banners and fact-sheets about Joplin were available.

"I thought it was great," said Rep. Chuck Surface (R-Joplin). "It's the best we've ever done."

"We had a lot of folks here and they did it professionally with banners and displays."

Kristy Jackson, career services coordinator at Missouri Southern, said efforts of many people made the day a success. She said Don Schultz, instructor of computer assisted manufacturing technology, made mugs that had Joplin on one side and Southern's name on the other. The mugs were put into gift bags with other information and gifts relating to the Joplin area and distributed to every legislator.

"He (Schultz) played a big part even though they didn't go," Jackson said.

Also included in the information legislators received were pamphlets and booklets about Southern provided by Derek Skaggs, director of enrollment services.

"I know they definitely wanted a representative from the College there because it's a big part of the community," Jackson said. "There were several people who knew people or had family members who came to Southern."

"Some people also asked questions about the international mission and about the majors we were offering in that."

Surface said the exposure for Joplin was good and may pay off in future legislation.

"We've had a pretty good turnover in the last year of legislators," he said. "It's great in an educational perspective because now people will recognize what we mean when legislation comes up that talks about growth in our area."

"Most people don't know Joplin is the fourth largest metropolitan area in the state."

Surface said there are two signs in the Jefferson City area advertising Joplin as a good place to live and work.

"Joplin has the second-most use of enterprise zones in the state of Missouri," he said. □

EDITOR'S COLUMN

Year end not beginning of work

With only a week remaining in this spring's legislative session, Missouri lawmakers are working at full throttle to get last-minute issues resolved.

One of the biggest pet peeves of the secretaries I work with in the representatives' offices is the barrage of telephone calls they get in these final weeks asking why legislators wait until the last few weeks of session to accomplish anything.

These are people who don't understand what it takes to run a state government. Sure, most of the "big" issues this session, such as restrictions on family planning money, the partial-birth abortion ban, and tax cuts, have remained unresolved in these, the final weeks.

The reason for this is the unbelievable amount of uninteresting, tedious but necessary work that has to be done to keep paychecks flowing, schools running, and general maintenance on track.

The state cannot run without grueling hours of committee meetings in titillating areas such as appropriations, transportation, budget, and commerce.

Legislators have to wade through hundreds of bills that are responsible for everything from

Department of Natural Resources regulations on the dry cleaning industry to capital improvements funding for Missouri Southern.

The difference between the state legislature in February and the same group of people in May is a narrowed slate of issues. Those more controversial issues stick around because of the lengthy process it takes to amend and pass legislation through both houses.

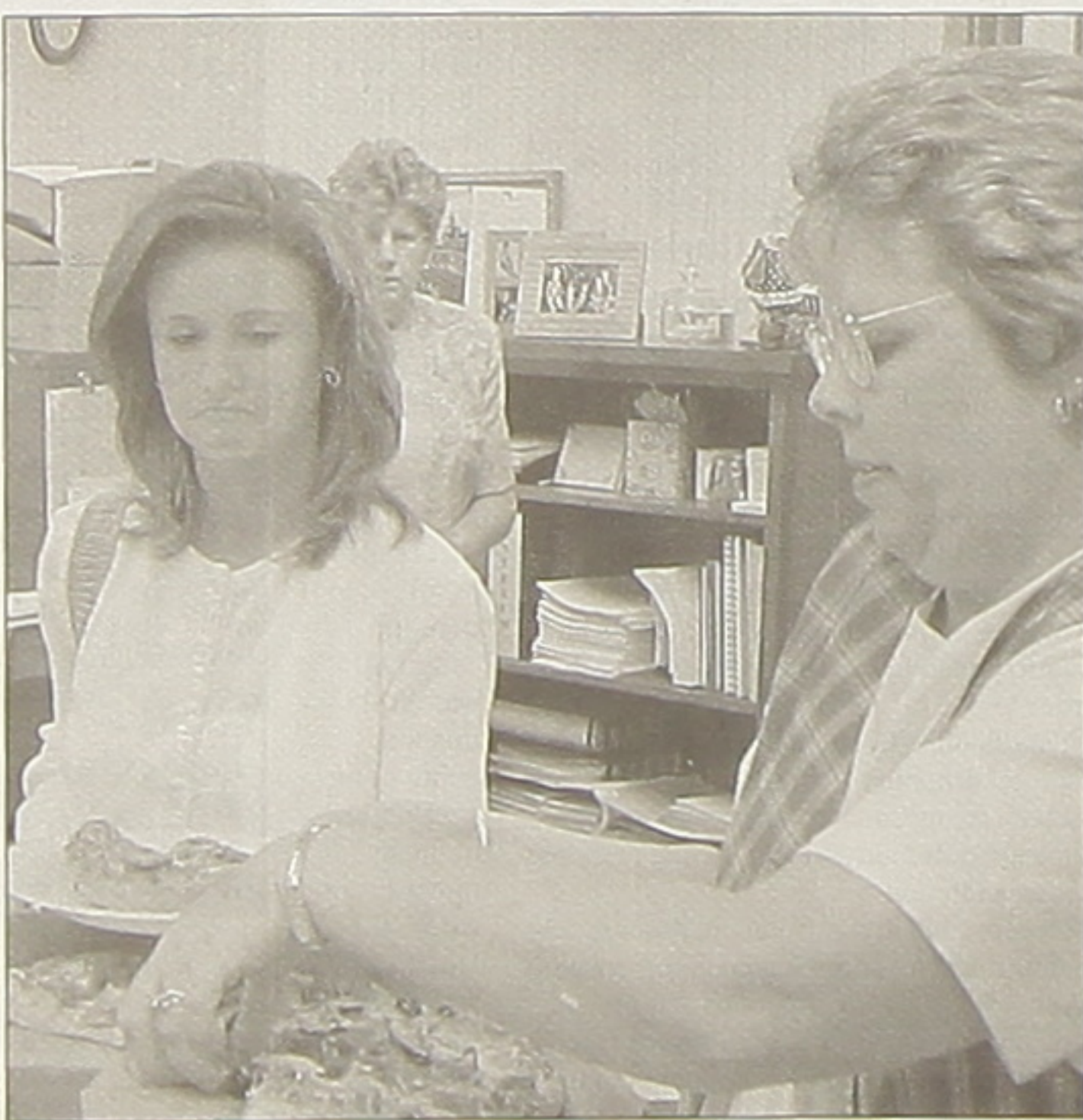
For example, the partial-birth abortion bill is a House bill that has been passed through the House committee. If amended in the Senate after surviving the Senate committee, it will have to go through conference committee and the House will have to vote to accept the amendment or not — and on it goes.

Missouri is just like all other states in that hundreds of decisions are made each spring that are overlooked by those who think legislating is all about big and juicy issues.

Being a state representative or senator has perks, that's for sure. It is not, however, for most at the Capitol about making money or finding fame. It also includes long drives (trust me on that one), late nights, early mornings, and, if you're a Republican, cramped offices.

The last thing the secretaries, legislative assistants, and interns need to hear is complaints about the last two weeks. Right now the legislature may be facing a special session to decide some crucial issues. This is no cake walk for those who are missing time at jobs and with families. □

A PIECE OF THE PIE



GINNY DUMOND/The Chart

At an end-of-the-session pizza party secretaries Diane Koestner (left) and Cindy Martin get ready to dig in at lunch time.

TENNIS

Southern to open regional play against No. 11 Broncos

By RUSSELL DAKE
STAFF WRITER

The honeymoon is over for the newly crowned conference champion Missouri Southern tennis team. After winning its first-ever conference title, Southern travels today to Edmond, Okla., to do battle with the No. 11 nationally ranked and No. 3 Midwest Region seed, the University of Central Oklahoma Broncos.

Southern, who also earned its initial entry to NCAA post-season play, will be up against competition like none it has seen so far this season. The Broncos team consists

of one three-time All-American, a No. 2 singles player who is a two-time All-American, and a transfer who was an All-American in the junior college ranks.

"They're a very strong team," said Southern coach Linda Gebauer. "Their top four players are international (Yugoslavia, Russia, and Spain) and are very strong. They hit the ball with power."

The Lady Lions will be facing a UCO team that is looking to improve on its first-round exit from last season's NCAA Division II national tournament.

"We are going into this as the underdog," Gebauer said. "And just to make it to that

level, we're excited. Once you get there, we want to try to make a good showing. We will have to work harder than any match this year. We are going against a quality team that has been this road before. This is our first time, and I'm kind of concerned about that factor."

The match should provide the Lady Lions with exposure and experience that will introduce them to the level of play necessary to compete on the national level. Gebauer believes this competition will be a valuable experience for her squad.

"We don't have anything to lose," she said. "We need to play that way on the court."

"Southern kind of surprised me and sent a surprising message when they won the MIAA," said UCO coach Francis Baxter. "They weren't even ranked in the top 15 last time I checked."

Southern freshman Kerri Murphy will be returning to the Lady Lions' ladder this week after missing the last portion of the season with an injury to her medial collateral ligament.

She will team with senior Jaime Dill at No. 3 doubles. A determination on her status for No. 5 singles will not be made until today.

The Broncos send a line-up into today's

competition that consists of four seniors, a junior, and a freshman. The four seniors have been competing for three years at the varsity level, Baxter said.

"Our strongest thing about our team," she said, "is our experience."

"We've been working a lot on our doubles," Gebauer added, "fine tuning our groundstrokes and hitting a lot of balls."

Southern will leave early today and arrive in Edmond in time to get in a hour of practice before breaking for lunch. The regional competition gets under way at 2 p.m. at the Edmond Racquet Club on the campus of UCO. □

SOCCER

Head coach search continues as year closes

Beard hopes to hire candidate by May

By RUSSELL DAKE
STAFF WRITER

The end of the academic year is fast approaching, and the search continues for a new men's and women's soccer coach.

The College hopes to fill the position before the end of the spring semester.

"I would like to name our candidate by the end of May, possibly

May 28," said Sallie Beard, women's athletic director.

"Maybe sooner. As far as I'm concerned, it needs to be wrapped up by then."

"I know we have some really strong candidates," she said. "Right now we are looking at nine who meet the qualifications."

Southern's soccer teams continued to work out this spring under the supervision of former head coach Jim Cook.

He remains under contract until the end of the academic year, also doing some of the recruiting for next year's teams.

The cupboard is not completely

bare for the Southern soccer squads; the women's team has signed four recruits, the men one.

The Lions finished the 1998 season with a 5-11 record and a 2-2 mark in the MIAA, the league's last season to include men's soccer as a championship sport.

The Lady Lions, competing in their first season at the club level, produced a record of 2-13.

Next season they will compete in the MIAA, as the conference adds women's soccer as a championship sport.

The search for a head coach has been advertised nationwide.

"What we advertised was a single job, head women's and men's soccer coach," said Jim Frazier, men's athletics director.

"It is a staff position, non-tenured and non-faculty."

"I've had a half-dozen calls from individuals who have expressed interest. Those six people have indicated they would apply, and I am confident they have."

Both the men's and women's schedules for the 1999 soccer season have been completed.

"On the women's side, I think we have one game that we don't have a contract," Beard said.

"But the schedule is done." □

TRACK & FIELD

Dotson ranked second in nation, Estes shatters school points record

By ROBBY BALL
STAFF WRITER

The Missouri Southern's men's and women's track and field teams traveled to Southwest Missouri State Saturday for a tune-up meet before conference.

Junior high jumper Kevin Dotson earned a national qualifying mark with a jump of 7-

2 1/4. He is currently ranked second in the nation.

"Kevin jumped extremely well," Rutledge said. "We had improvements in all areas."

One of those improvements was triple jumper Stephen Kindell, who jumped a 48-8 and is now ranked 12th in the nation.

"It is great to have that, especially from a freshman," Rutledge said. "Dustin Franks also bettered his time in the 800-meter and

is ranked 13th in the nation."

Freshman heptathletes Rachel Miller and Misty Estes traveled to Pittsburg State University for their conference championship and came back with fourth and fifth place.

"Misty finished fourth and broke the school record for total points," said Patty Vavra, head women's coach. "Rachel came in fifth, and that tells you something when

these two girls finished behind three seniors."

Senior distance runner Amanda Harrison finished third in the 1,500, and senior hurdler Tina Keller placed fourth in the 100-meter hurdles.

"The meet at SMS just kept us sharp for conference this weekend," said Vavra. "We held some people back to save them for conference."

Senior Heather Hoyle and senior thrower Stephanie Wainscott placed fifth and third, respectively.

"These girls always seem to rise to the level of competition when it becomes conference time," said Vavra. "It should be a good meet."

The MIAA championship will take place this weekend at Northwest Missouri State University. □

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Sports Scope

Lady Lions accumulate many honors

Four unanimous picks and two awards for a two-sport standout highlight the 14th annual LePage-Smith Awards. Conspicuously missing from the list of recipients are the women's softball team and head coach Pat Lipira. Lipira and her ladies dominated LePage-Smith voting last year.

The Chart sports staff feels compelled not to award a *Lion Team of the Year* or *Lion Coach of the Year*. What will it take for a Southern men's team and coach to get the award? Although a conference championship would be nice, the sub-par performances by football, soccer, basketball, and baseball might mean the first team to finish above .500 will win in 2000.

With the extra trophies in hand, we are naming two *Lady Lion Teams of the Year*. Tennis and cross country share the award. Both squads brought home MIAA titles. The tennis team displayed a complete turnaround under a new coach. Linda Gebauer's netters are competing in the NCAA Division II regional today in Edmond, Okla.

The second unanimous vote went to national champion high jumper Kevin Dotson for *Lion Player of the Year*. Dotson, a junior, went to Indianapolis for the indoor track and field championship and cleared 7-1 1/4 for the title.

Lyndsey Kenealy, the first player off the bench for the women's basketball team, was first in our polling for *Lady Lion of the Year*.

Joey Ballard garnered two awards: *Athlete of the Year* and *Freshman of the Year*. The MIAA co-freshman of the year in football and freshman of the year candidate in baseball was the pick of the entire Chart sports staff. Ballard gained 1,276 total yards and 12 touchdowns in the fall.

He led the baseball squad with a .358 batting average and stellar play in center field.

Another unanimous pick gave the *Lady Lion Coach of the Year* award to Gebauer. In her first year at Southern, Gebauer led the Lady Lion tennis team to a MIAA title.

Whatever the outcome today in Edmond, Okla., it has been a season to remember for the Southern netters.

In another unanimous decision, the *Rodney Dangerfield Award* goes to Mike Wilson, former assistant men's basketball coach.

Wilson, after nine years of service to Southern, was unceremoniously relieved of his basketball duties over the summer and moved to another position.

The final unanimous pick tabbed the Lady Lion cross country and track athletes as *Seniors of the Year*.

They are among the most successful athletes at Southern, and most toil without scholarship and fanfare.

This year's new award is the *Unsung Hero Award*. The recipients are senior Brian Taylor and Kenealy.

Both players did the blue collar chores for their respective basketball squads. Taylor, a senior, treated Southern fans to hustle and a late-season surge that almost brought the under-achieving Lions to a victory in the MIAA conference tournament.

The Chart sports staff congratulates this year's LePage-Smith winners and wishes best of luck to Southern athletes for the 1999-2000 seasons. □

SOFTBALL

TOURNAMENT TIME

Rain delays conference competition

Weekend forecast predicts
clear skies in Shawnee, Kan.

By ANDRE L. SMITH
SPORTS/DESIGN EDITOR

A battle with the University of Missouri-Rolla, originally scheduled for April 25 and rescheduled twice, was finally axed on Wednesday. The Lady Lions were supposed to play the Lady Miners at Rolla, but rains left the field in poor condition.

If there were questions as to whether the conference tournament will take place this weekend in Shawnee, Kan., forecasts have curbed the worry. As of Wednesday, forecasts called for partly cloudy skies with a high in the mid 70s. Should the conditions take a turn for the worse, the MIAA does not have the option of a rain day as it did in the past. Matt Newberry, the MIAA's director of sports information, said cancellation has never happened before and is not likely.

"We've got a good forecast for the weekend," he said. "We've never lost an entire tournament. We've lost days before and we've had to play on our rain day, though."

Newberry added that because of the regional tournament, which starts May 14, it would be difficult to move the tournament back. If the tournament is not completed because of rain, the MIAA would have to then make a choice.

"It depends on how many games we get in and what teams are left," Newberry said. "If we're not able to finish, there will be a determining committee with the commissioner and others making the decision."

The Lady Lions (24-20) were guaranteed the third seed in the tournament after Washburn dealt Missouri Western two losses. The Lady Griffons and Southern were tied with 11-7 records, but MWSC's defeats lowered its win percentage.

Saturday at noon, the Lady Lions will likely play Emporia State University in the first game of the tournament. Southern felt the sting of ESU's Lady Hornets on April 30 when the Lady Lions suffered 1-0 and 3-2 losses at home.

Britany Hargis picked up the loss in the contest that saw Southern register only one hit while ESU had five. Emporia State's lone run came in the third inning when Diane Bradford and Whitney Sims hit back-to-back triples, which scored one run.

"We didn't come out with any kind of offense,"

TURN TO SOFTBALL, PAGE 9



NOPPADOL PAOTHONG/The Chart

Sophomore second baseman Brandi Kessler jumps to catch a throw from the infield while an Emporia State player dives head first into base. Kessler broke her thumb in practice this week and is not expected to play in the conference tournament.

WOMEN'S ATHLETICS DEPARTMENT

Assistant coaches to soon undergo interview process

By ANDRE L. SMITH
SPORTS/DESIGN EDITOR

After a national search for two assistant coaches, the women's athletics department is looking to soon fill a full-time and part-time position.

The softball team will gain full-time help while the volleyball team picks up a part-timer. The basketball and cross country teams currently have the department's only two assistants.

"We do anything we can to allow our coaches and players to have success," said Sallie Beard, women's athletics director. "When coaches have to be in the classroom full-time and on the field full-time, they can't do either job to its fullest."

Hiring an assistant gives them a chance to improve in the classroom and coaching."

Softball, which is in the process of joining basketball as a level one sport, has 16 players on its team roster. The "phase in" will be one of the final steps in making softball a level one sport.

"It's a process that has been going on for about three years," Beard said.

"It's always a slow process," added Pat Lipira, head softball coach. "People always tend to want things to happen overnight, but it just takes time."

Although many responsibilities will be lifted from the shoulders of the head coaches, Beard said one of the main goals is increasing the

number of coaches to each player.

"Our athletes are the ones who will benefit most," she said. "We sat down and looked at the numbers on eligibility rosters, and we'd like there to be one coach to every 15 or 20 athletes."

Lipira, who is in her 18th year of coaching at Missouri Southern, said it will be good to have more help. The candidate is required to have a master's degree in kinesiology or a related field and will teach as well as coach.

"We anticipate having a good pool to choose from," Lipira said. "I certainly welcome the help."

A bachelor's degree and collegiate coaching experience is preferred of the volleyball assistant coach. Head volleyball coach Debbie Traywick

said she is looking forward to having another person to contribute.

"Anytime you can have another person you can draw from, it gives you a broader perspective," she said. "We will have feedback in our action. I'm excited."

Recruiting will also be an area in which both assistants will focus. Since high schools compete at the same time of the year, it is difficult to give recruiting the attention that it deserves.

"Without an assistant, coaches have to be in both places," Beard said.

Traywick has had some part-time help in the past and expressed the importance of having an assistant. One person who testifies to the privilege of possessing an assistant is

head basketball coach Amy Townsend. Townsend said she could not ask for a better assistant than Cathy Shoup.

"Assistant coaches wear many, many hats," she said. "I don't know of many programs that can run smoothly without an assistant. The good thing for me is that there's a lot of trust between Cathy and I, and on top of that she's a great coach."

Beard added that the interviewing process could begin as early as next week.

"We've had a very good response for both positions," she said. "We have a number of volleyball applicants and some quality people who have applied for the softball position." □